

EVERY TUESDAY

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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THE SCHOOLBOY WITH THE X-RAY EYES

"Seeing" Water and Minerals Underground

THIS story, which comes to us from South Africa, tells of the strange power possessed by a seventeen-year-old schoolboy. He added half a million gallons a week to the water supply of Salisbury, Rhodesia, at a time when householders in the capital were limited to fifteen gallons a day because of drought.

We have all heard of the diviners, or dowisers, who seek out hidden supplies of water and minerals. Sometimes this power is developed to an extraordinary degree, as in the 75-year-old Australian who during the war demonstrated to the Navy and Air Force authorities that he could detect the presence of submarines 60 to 400 miles away! (The *CN* told this remarkable story last year).

Young Pieter Van Jaarsvald, of Potchefstroom in the Transvaal, would seem to be another diviner invested with this strange, rare power, and he is believed by mining experts to possess what they call "X-ray eyes." Pieter himself says that he is able to "see" water and minerals underground. Experts have tested his claims and are convinced that they are perfectly genuine.

The Test

Not long ago a Johannesburg gold-mining syndicate expert buried gold, diamonds, and coins under a large piece of ground and then smoothed the surface. Pieter was taken to the ground and asked to indicate exactly where they were buried. He gazed at the ground and at once pointed out the place where the articles were hidden; and he also indicated another article that had lain in the earth for centuries!

The expert was so impressed that Pieter was asked by the mining syndicate to visit Tanganyika to divine minerals during his holidays. He signed a contract to do so.

On his way to Tanganyika, Pieter stayed a few days in Salisbury, Rhodesia. At the hotel he was told that owing to the drought and general shortage of water for public use he could not have a bath. That gave Pieter an idea. Why not try to divine some? he thought; but when he suggested this to the city engineer, he was sceptical.

Pieter Proves Right

However, he had heard about the youth's powers and decided to encourage him. Pieter was taken to Hartmann Hill, near one of the city's reservoirs. Within a few minutes he had indicated a spot where he said he could "see" water. The authorities were doubtful, but ordered drilling to begin; and they were amazed when pumping tests revealed a supply of 2500 gallons an hour!

This achievement, which made

Pieter famous throughout the country, has been explained modestly by him. "It looks like beams of moonlight; I could see them under the surface," he said. "Water seems to me to give off vibrations which appear like beams of moonlight through a window pane. I can follow the course of an underground stream by following vibrations." They

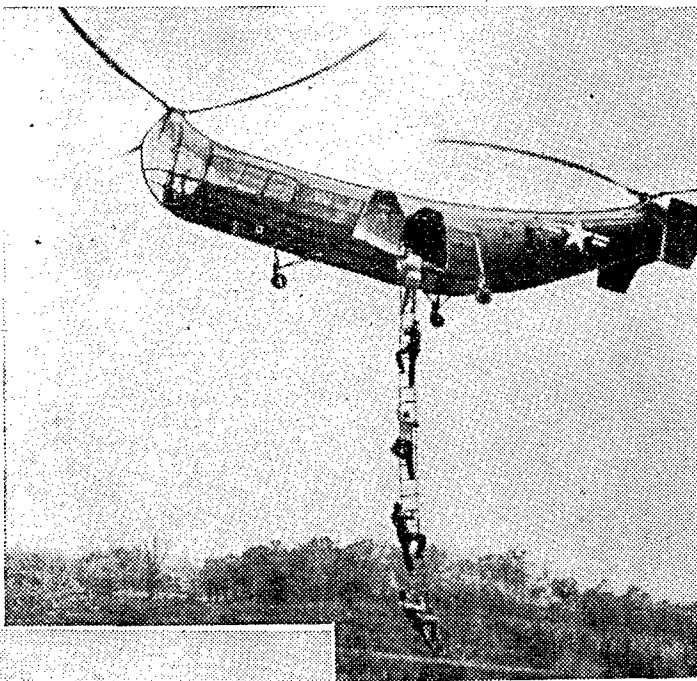


are similar to the heat haze, perfectly visible to the naked eye, which appears over very hot objects."

Pieter recalled that when he was a small boy he "saw" water under what was apparently dry land on his father's farm in the Orange Free State. His father told him not to be silly, but Pieter had insisted that water was there. Finally, almost against his will, his father dug a well and immediately found the unsuspected water. For many years the lad thought everybody had his ability to "see" underground.

Pieter is now back at school at Potchefstroom, unaware that the story of his discovery of the Salisbury water has gone round the world.

Climbing Up—Looking Down



From his armchair in the sky a traveller flying across the Pacific might look down at a four-masted barque and think of the seamen who climb rope ladders to set the sails. But a rope ladder also proved of service to five men of the Air Age, enabling them to climb up to a hovering helicopter during a demonstration in America.

TETTA QUESI'S COCOA PODS

A new community centre at Asamaukese, a Gold Coast village, has been built by a famous firm of chocolate and cocoa manufacturers and officially accepted by the government of the colony.

Most people know that the Gold Coast provides most of the world's cocoa, but few are aware that this vast cocoa industry is the outcome of a blacksmith's experiment.

In 1879 a blacksmith named Tetta Quesi returned to the Gold Coast from the fertile island of Fernando Po. With him he brought as curios some strange and beautifully-coloured pods, each as big as a man's head, the like of which had never been seen in West Africa. They were the fruit of the cocoa tree.

The blacksmith planted some of the seeds from the pods in his garden, and found that the fertile soil and damp heat suited them admirably. From these seeds came the first trees of the Cocoa Colony, beautiful with great golden pods gleaming like lanterns and clusters of tiny pink and yellow blossoms.

The cocoa trees, numbering well over 300,000,000 before the war, produce about 300,000 tons of cocoa a year, an amazing outcome of what, in the first place, was a blacksmith's curiosity.

John Williams VI

NEW SHIP OF AN HONOURED LINE

A NEW motor vessel of 300 tons has been acquired by the London Missionary Society for its work in the Pacific, and she is to bear the name John Williams VI.

For over a hundred years there has been a missionary ship in the Pacific called John Williams—a name famous in Christian history as that of the London boy who, in 1839, became the martyr of Erromanga. The present ship, John Williams V, was launched in 1930 and is still at work between Suva, Fiji, and the Gilbert and Ellice Islands; but she is proving costly in repairs, and is not able to cover as wide a circuit in the Pacific as could be desired.

The line of ships bearing the name of John Williams started in sail, the fourth John Williams was a steamer, the fifth a combination of sail and motor, and the sixth will be driven by a diesel motor. The present ship's route is mainly confined to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, to which she carries missionaries and stores and takes hundreds of boys and girls to school each year.

Ports of Call

The new John Williams will be able to cruise for much longer distances than the present ship and will include Samoa, the Cook Islands, and New Guinea among her places of call. She is to have ample accommodation for European missionaries and for Pacific islanders, as well as excellent provision for the captain and crew. Her cargo space will be needed for the many wants of island mission stations.

Before she sails to the Pacific it is hoped to show John Williams VI in many ports round our coasts next summer, so that thousands of children will see her. During the last hundred years Congregational Sunday School children have collected £250,000 for the ships carrying the name of John Williams, and they will be asked to collect at least £20,000 for the new ship.

CLEANER EGGS

IN the State of Victoria more than 200 poultry keepers think they can induce their hens to lay cleaner eggs, and their ideas are being considered by the Victorian Egg Board, which is offering a prize to the winner.

The competition is sponsored by the Commonwealth Egg Producers' Council, which will shortly launch similar competitions in other States, the object being to reduce deterioration in exported eggs. Eggs swiftly lose condition when they are washed, and our Ministry of Food, a big customer, insists on clean, unwashed eggs.

Some of the entries received in Victoria suggest a number of devices which would force the hen to wipe its feet before entering the nest.

Bee-Keeper on the Wing

AUSTRALIA's first flying bee-keeper has begun operations over a 500-mile coastal area in Western Australia. He is Mr F. J. Goodwin, and he is using a single-engined Tiger Moth bi-plane for reconnaissance over likely bee-keeping country.

Mr Goodwin finds that low flying over uninhabited country enables him to select the best areas for apiaries, to judge the density of forests and locate the easiest tracks to take him there. He plans to carry "scout hives" to selected areas in his plane, and if the results are good, other hives will be taken there by motor truck.

EUROPE'S FUTURE

ONCE again the Big Four—the Foreign Ministers of France, Great Britain, Russia, and the United States—are meeting to discuss the future of Germany and Austria, and, with it, the future of our Continent. The results of this meeting in London will affect profoundly the future of all countries.

If the Foreign Ministers fail to agree there will be anxiety everywhere, resulting in a further delay in the economic recovery of the world.

It is very important, therefore, that we all should realise the meaning of those differences between the Allies which have so long delayed the making of peace with Germany and Austria.

Former conferences on the German Treaty (the last one was at Moscow in March) have revealed important differences of opinion between Russia on the one hand and Britain, America, and France on the other. While all parties want to settle the question of Germany neither we nor the Russians feel able to give way on several

important standpoints. What are they?

First of all there is the question of economic unity of Germany, with which is linked her payment of reparations for her wrongdoing. The Western point of view is broadly this: we must establish the economic unity of Germany first; we must let her get on her feet, that is, feed herself as far as she can and pay with exports for what she has to buy abroad. If we let her agricultural eastern part go its own way without contributing to the feeding of industrial western Germany the British and American taxpayers may be forced to support the Germans in the Western zone indefinitely.

As to reparations, Britain and the US say that whatever factories are to be taken away should be removed within a period of a few years. If reparations are to be paid out of the goods which Germany produces in her undismantled factories this should not be permitted until she can actually feed herself.

In answer to this the Russians say that they have suffered such tremendous losses at the hands of the German aggressor that they must consider reparations first. Let us agree, they say, on reparations from current production, that is, from factories which remain in German hands, and the "rest" may be settled with comparative ease. And they suggest that they should be permitted to take goods to the value of £2500,000,000.

Other Thorny Problems

But the fact is that this "rest" does include strongly disputed matters, such as, who should participate in the general Peace Conference: all countries who have declared war on Germany or only those which have actually fought against her on the battlefield? Also, should the recommendations of the Big Four conference now being held in London be binding on the members of that general conference? Should there be a clause imposing upon the German people the obligation to accept the Peace Treaty or are we to be carelessly lenient as after the First World War?

As to the Austrian treaty, the disagreement between Russia and the Western Allies is also economic. It is the question of German property. When, in 1938, Austria was invaded and added to Germany, the Nazi Government deprived its opponents of valuable holdings. To cover up such robbery a contract was often drawn up and signed by the victim under the threat of death or torture. Such "contracts" have, of course, no validity whatever anywhere in the world. In many cases, however, Russia has insisted that such German-owned assets should become her property as spoils of war and not go back to their rightful owners. This, of course, is being opposed by the Western countries.

Should these key problems of Germany and Austria be settled at this London conference a new era will have indeed begun.

Thailand?

WHAT will Siam call herself now? Until 1939 this great country of some 200,000 square miles between Burma and Indo-China bore the name by which we had always known her. Then she changed her title to Muang-Thai, or Thailand, meaning the Land of the Free. The Japanese invasion showed how "free" the so-called land of free men really was, however, and with the end of the war the name became the old familiar Siam once again.

Field-Marshal Pibul Songkram, who was prime minister during the Japanese occupation, has now seized control of the Siamese government, and with a new confusion convulsing the country, we know not what we must call her. It was Songkram who, at the bidding of the Japanese, declared war on us; but most of the Siamese leaders were secretly loyal to us at the risk of their lives, a circumstance that we shall never forget. Neither shall we ever forget the poignant story of the Burma-Siam railway.

A year ago the Siamese government announced its intention of buying, for a million and a quarter pounds, that part of the railway which, running from west of Bangkok to south of Moulmein, was built by British and Allied prisoners of war. So cruelly were these prisoners treated that 16,000 of them died during the progress of the work.

CN PAINTING TEST

Closes December 1

READERS who are taking part in the Autumn-Term Painting Competition (announced last month) and who have not yet sent in their pictures, are reminded that Monday, December 1, is the last day for receiving entries. The address to which entries should be sent is:

CN Autumn Painting Test,
Room 171,
The Fleetway House,
London, E C 4 (Comp).

THE DOCTOR OF LAMBARENE

READERS of the CN have frequently been given news of Albert Schweitzer, now in his seventy-third year and still at work in his African hospital at Lambarene; but only recently has the first full-length biography in English been published. Albert Schweitzer, by George Seaver (Black, 18s), tells the full story of this remarkable man who, renowned in music, theology, and philosophy, gives his life as a doctor to peoples in Equatorial Africa. What is it that keeps him at work? He calls his belief "Reverence for Life"—even for the humblest human and lowliest animal in creation.

Nobel Prizes

THE Nobel prize for physics goes to Sir Edward Appleton for his work on atmospheric physics and especially for his discovery of the "Appleton layer." The Nobel chemistry prize goes to Sir Robert Robinson, President of the Royal Society, for his researches on important substances in plant biology, especially alkaloids; and the Nobel Prize for literature to André Gide, the French author.

WORLD NEWS REEL

"THE PROPER STUDY." The University of California has sent an expedition to Africa to study the primitive races and fossil remains of a man deposited there.

A Tudor IV has set up a commercial record for the Bermuda-London journey—3500 miles in 11½ hours.

Plans are being made for the British evacuation of Palestine to be completed by August 1 next year.

NO HEALTH RESORT. Thirteen members of Australia's Antarctic expedition plan to spend 15 months on the isolated Heard Island, 2000 miles south-west of Fremantle—an island swept continuously by 70-mile-an-hour gales or else blanketed by fog.

Britain and Eire have made a trade agreement by which Britain is to receive food in return for coal, agricultural machinery, steel, textile raw materials, fertilisers, and seed wheat.

In New Zealand it is expected that all the Dominion's previous records for food production will be broken during the present season.

HOME NEWS REEL

ONE A YEAR. Fifty birds' nests came to light when the village pump at Ickenham, Middlesex, was cleaned out not long ago for the first time since 1897.

Baroness Orczy, who wrote The Scarlet Pimpernel, passed on not long ago at the age of 80. Although she wrote 54 novels in English, this Hungarian-born woman could not speak English at all until she was 15.

Wisbech Museum, Cambridgeshire, has decided not to sell the original manuscript of Great Expectations, which is in its possession.

DEVON COAL. Since August nearly 50,000 tons of brown coal (lignite) have been taken by rail from Heathfield, Devonshire, to places on the South and East Coast, Birmingham, and North Wales.

The Revd Arthur Sewell, the Church of England's oldest clergyman, has died in a nursing-home after a fall. He was 106.

Deck-landing trials of the Naval Vickers Supermarine Attacker, one of the fastest jet planes in the world, were recently carried out satisfactorily on the aircraft carrier, H M S Illustrious.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

NEW KING'S SCOUTS. Sixty-seven Scouts from all parts of the British Isles came to London recently to receive King's Scout Certificates from the Chief Scout at a special investiture.

The Guide Badge of Fortitude has been awarded to June Smith, a coloured Guide of the 1st Excelsior Company (Bermuda), for her bravery and endurance during seven years in hospital.

Eight-year-old Wolf Cub Peter Harvey, of the 26th (St Andrew's, Thornton Heath) Wolf Cub Pack, has been awarded a Letter of Commendation from the Chief Scout for his bravery. When Peter's head was jammed between a coal lorry and a wall, it took 20 minutes to release him; and although his skull was fractured he remained conscious and neither cried nor complained.

FLYING GUIDE. The first Air Ranger to qualify for her "wings" is Joan Wood, age 20, of the 1st Shoreham Air Rangers, who, recently gained her pilot's A licence. The Air Rangers are a new branch of the Girl Guide movement.

Canadian Scouts will soon be wearing a new type of uniform specially designed for use in the harsh Canadian winter. It consists of ski-type trousers, wind-breaker jacket with detachable hood trimmed with Wolverine fur, and smart ski cap, all in forest green.

The Boys Brigade Diploma for Gallant Conduct has been awarded to Sergeant Gordon Halewood of the 40th Liverpool Company for saving from drowning in the Mersey a boy seized with cramp and being carried toward the sea.

Radio Contact With the Moon

AUSTRALIAN scientists have succeeded in contacting the Moon with radar signals. This is the first time that experiments of this nature have been successfully carried out within the British Commonwealth.

Radar signals sent through V.L.C., one of Radio Australia's small transmitters at Shepparton in Victoria, early on the morning of November 7 returned as echoes on the instruments of the waiting scientists. New facts about the upper atmosphere, and about the regions between the Earth and the Moon where there is no atmosphere, are expected to be established as a result.

There was intense excitement among the scientists when the first signal was heard at five minutes to four in the morning, after the Moon had been vainly bombarded with signals for an hour and a half. Scientists of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, who conducted the experiments in association with technicians of the Postmaster-General's Department, said that the outstanding discovery of the experiment was the variation of the strength of the echo at different times. Echoes continued for 20 minutes.

An Old Schooner's End

THE 100-ton schooner Ellie Park, which was built in 1879, recently lost the last of her many struggles with angry seas. She broke up in a rough sea halfway between Douglas, Isle of Man, and Liverpool.

Two of her gallant crew went down with her, but the captain, Neils Ammersbom, a Dane, and a sailor, N. E. Burns, from Bangor in Northern Ireland, were dramatically rescued. Burns was clinging to a small piece of wreckage which was only visible when it mounted the crest of a wave. But the keen eyes of Chief Officer John D. Crane of the Manx steamer King Orry, spotted the object and its burden.

The King Orry changed course and picked up Burns, then steamed on for nearly a mile and found Neils Ammersbom.

The Useful Mud-Slingers

THE launching of ocean liners from our shipbuilding yards is very much in the news today, and these inspiring occasions call for the constant work of dredgers to maintain the depth of the channels in the rivers down which the new ships must travel to the sea.

The humble dredger is ever busy, scooping up mud and sand from the river's bed with its chain of buckets which empty their contents into the vessel's hold. The River Clyde is dredged daily to keep a shipping passage clear from Glasgow to the sea. Otherwise the liners Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth could never have steamed down the Clyde, and no merchant ships could berth higher than Greenock.

The war held up the construction of dredgers, and British yards are now busy supplying them to countries all over the world. Without these squat little ships the great rivers of the

world would silt up and seal off the big inland ports.

On the Clyde several kinds of dredgers are being built. There is the sand dredger, which sucks up sand and expels it through pipes miles clear of the river. There is the gold dredger, which can work in a swamp, seeking the precious "pay dirt"—the soil containing gold. Another dredger being built in Scotland is a kind of laundry for minerals; it scoops them up and then washes the mud from the valuable heavy material.

In contrast to these scientific dredgers were the old horse-dredgers which went out of use about one hundred years ago. On board these dredgers the horses worked on apparatus like tread-mills which caused chains of buckets to rotate, scooping up mud from river beds.

These patient sailor-dobkins must have been glad when machinery relieved them of their dull work.

RUGGER TRIPLETS

THE Rugby team of Glenalmond School in Perthshire has three, brothers in the three-quarter line. They are the triplet sons of a Scottish Episcopalian minister—Canon Denholm. These lads have also appeared together in other athletic events, and at their annual sports were placed first, second, and third in a race.

Opportunity Knocks

A young English farmer, Alan Burdekin, a wartime air-gunner, has gone to New Zealand at the invitation of a Waikato farmer, Mr G. L. Kelk, of Te Pahu, as a result of publicity given to Burdekin's efforts to bring new life to a derelict farm in Pembrokehire.

When the trials Burdekin faced were described in an English magazine, he received 120 letters from well-wishers in New Zealand, Australia, Canada, and Rhodesia, and it was in this way that he started regular correspondence with Mr Kelk and his wife.

They offered him a share in a farming partnership, and, with his wife and little daughter, he went out by plane and has now started life anew in the southern Dominion.

Hero-Worship



The big drummer of the London Scottish Regiment band attracts the attention of a young admirer, who also wears a kilt.

The Cresset Shines Again

THE cresset on the tower of Gillingham parish church in Kent, which in days gone by guided ships up the Medway, is now shining to call people to worship.

A cresset is an iron cage or cup in which pitch-soaked rope or other material was burned, in olden times as a beacon. Sometimes cressets, fixed on poles, were used for street-lighting. The one on Gillingham church tower last held a fire at the time of the Battle of Trafalgar.

Now the Vicar, the Revd A. L. Harkness, has had a powerful electric bulb attached to the old cresset and this shines at the hour of worship.

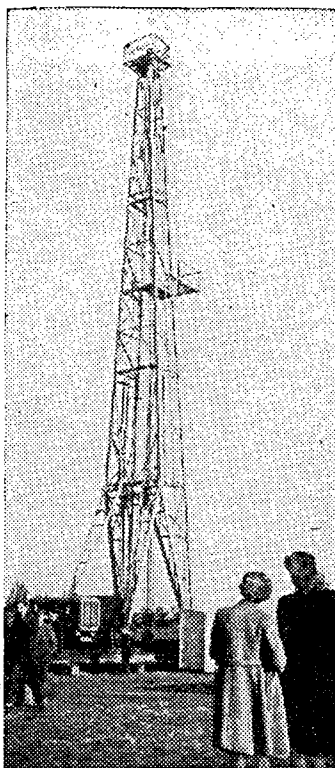
DOUBLY BRAVE

THREE months ago fourteen-year-old Isabella Addison, of Newhaven, Edinburgh, was awarded the Royal Humane Society's testimonial and was congratulated by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh for rescuing a small girl. Now Isabella has been rewarded a second time by the Lord Provost for another brave deed. Seeing a six-year-old boy fall into the water at Newhaven Harbour she dived fully clothed into the sea and pulled him ashore.

The Young Hero of Stepney

JOHN CURLEY, aged 14, who lives in Stepney, London, awoke early one morning recently and found his home on fire. He seized his four-year-old sister, Pat, and, in his pyjamas, carried her out into the street.

Then he realised that his 10-year-old brother, Frank, was trapped indoors, so back into the blazing house John ran barefoot to rescue him. The hall was full of smoke and flames and as he advanced to the staircase a burning beam fell behind him. He was at first driven back from the staircase by the heat. He was making another attempt to go up when a neighbour who had followed him in caught hold of him to drag him out. John struggled, for he was frantic to reach his brother. But he was pulled out into the street. Happily, firemen rescued brother Frank. All the eight people in the house escaped.



Oil in London

Tests of the soil at Gibbons Road recreation ground, Willesden, have indicated the possibility of there being oil under the surface. A derrick has been erected and drills are being sunk to a depth of 4000 feet to determine whether the oil is available in quantity. The picture above shows the 94-foot derrick in position; and, below, we see an oil-driller inspecting the equipment.



TOYS, PLEASE, FOR SICK CHILDREN

No Christmas gifts give more joy than those which find their way to the children's wards of our hospitals. If you would like to share in this joy will you please send a toy or game—old or new—to the Editor of the London Evening News for he and his staff are devoting their spare time to ensuring that none of the children in London hospitals have a toyless Christmas. Nothing will please them more than to be kept extremely busy, receiving, sorting, and distributing your gifts. Will you please send your parcel to "Toy for a Sick Child," Carmelite House, London, EC4.

Eight-Year-Old Film Star

IN the making of Cineguild's new film of Oliver Twist, the part of the world-famous boy-who-asked-for-more has been played by John Howard Davies, aged eight, a schoolboy of Hampstead, London. He is the youngest actor ever to play such a big part in British films.

Yet John had never done any acting before and he was not among more than 1500 boys who applied for the part.

What happened was that not one of this large number of applicants was suitable, and the producers began to despair of ever finding just the kind of boy they wanted to make Dickens's immortal lad come to life on the screen. Then Mr Lloyd, a well-

known film agent, went to the house of Jack Davies, film critic of the Sunday Graphic, and there he saw young John Howard, son of Mr Davies. At once he decided that this was the lad for the part.

So young John went to work at the Pinewood Studios. Of course, he has to carry on with his education as well as film acting, and a tutor has been giving him lessons in between "shots." At the studios John has had his own sitting-room, classroom, and—not least important—his own bathroom. He loves the work and rejoiced in his first reward—an electric train.

He has made a fine Oliver, but when the film is finished he will go back to school.

The Season of Advent

FROM early in the sixth century it has been the custom of Western Christendom (except in the Greek church) to observe the four Sundays immediately preceding Christmas as a season of preparation for the greatest event the world has ever known: the birth of the Holy Child. November 30 is the first of the four Sundays in this season, known as Advent (the Coming).

Many and varied were the Advent customs of the past, and one of the most interesting was a Yorkshire custom of carrying a Yule baby from house to house during the season. This was a dressed doll in a decorated box, representing the manger at Bethlehem; and it was considered unlucky for a house if it were not visited.

BUILDING BY FLOODLIGHT

EDINBURGH is to install emergency floodlighting on all housing sites in the city to speed the building of much-needed homes. The lamps used will be movable and will consume little electricity. It is calculated that ten working hours will be saved during each week of the winter months, when the days are short.

A Sturdy Clock

MR SAMUEL COLE, a Belfast jeweller, recently had for repair an English clock which was 150 years old. It had been going most of the time except for a short period when it had been stopped at the removal of the family to another house.

The trouble rectified, Mr Cole looked with interest at the old clock. He noted with amazement that the pallets were only slightly worn, about one-hundredth of an inch having been taken off them by the escape wheel. He thought that this wear, slight though it was, should be made good. So he set up the pallets in his vice and attempted to file them down level. After twenty minutes' hard filing without making any impression, he had to give up. He could have softened the steel, but thought it would be a pity to spoil such workmanship, so back the pallets went into the clock.

"They don't make clocks like that nowadays," said the jeweller. "If they get five or ten years' wear they think they're doing fine."

The old craftsmen certainly knew a thing or two about the art of clock-making.

MARY WARD'S WORK

THIS month the Mary Ward Settlement, that pioneer institution of social service, celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation in Tavistock Place, London.

It was in this settlement that the first public day school for physically defective children was started, the first children's play centre, and the first vacation school. The Settlement needs funds to extend its work in Islington, where it already has a centre for boys and girls in Canonbury. The address of the Mary Ward Settlement is Tavistock Place, WC1.

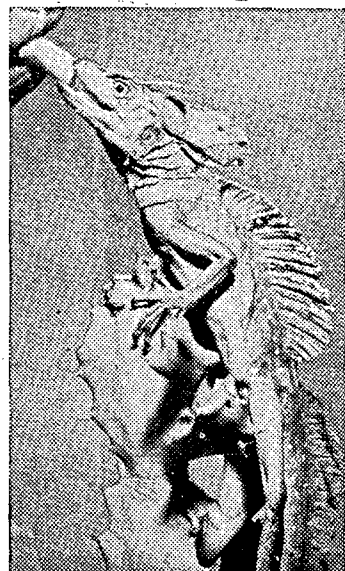
Brown Tom's Schooldays

TOM FINAU, a 21-year-old brown-skinned scholar from Tonga, is head prefect at Wesley College, in New Zealand, some 1500 miles south of the little island where he was born.

At Wesley College, about 30 miles from Auckland, racial prejudice is unknown. As long ago as 1844 Wesley College was founded as a mission school to instruct Maori young men as lay teachers; and for over a century it has shown that racial equality in education can be accomplished.

Today it is a happy little community of some 70 New Zealand boys and about 40 Maoris and Pacific Islanders, learning their lessons side by side and sharing equally all the other pleasures of college life.

Little Dragon



A tough customer is the double-crested basilisk of South America, for he perches comfortably on a cactus to take a morsel from his keeper in a New York zoo.

St Andrew For Scotland

NOVEMBER 30 is the day of St Andrew, one of the first disciples of Jesus, and Scotland's Patron Saint. He was the brother of Simon called Peter; of whom much is known, but little is known of Andrew's career after the death of his Master. According to tradition, he preached the gospel in Scythia and Northern Greece before meeting a martyr's death on the cross sometime between A.D. 60 and 70. A fragment of the cross is said to be embedded in one of the piers supporting the dome of St Peter's, Rome.

He became Scotland's Patron Saint about the year 740, but, as in the case of England's St George, another country at one time claimed St Andrew for its own. This was Old Russia, where the saint was regarded with particular veneration on account of the belief that he was the first to preach the gospel in that country. In his honour the Russian Order of St Andrew was founded in 1698 by Peter the Great, who made it the highest honour in his mighty Empire.

The White Cross

But St Andrew has always been better known as Scotland's Patron Saint and the white cross on a blue ground (representing the cross on which the saint was martyred) early became the emblem of Scotland. Nowadays, with the crosses of St George and St Patrick, it helps to form the Union Jack.

For many people, however, mention of St Andrew on November 30 will mean an opportunity to re-read the well-loved passage in Chapter iv of St Matthew's Gospel:

And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

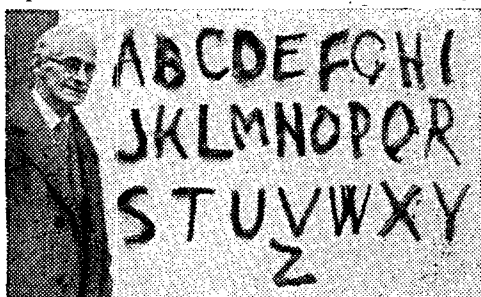
And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.

An Alphabet From the Hedgerow

MR FRANK WOOD, a Liverpool commercial traveller now living in retirement in the Cumberland village of Skirwith, possesses a unique alphabet, every letter of which was found growing naturally in bush or tree.

The idea of a hedgerow alphabet was born after Mr



Wood had examined a walking stick that a friend had cut from a Bettws-y-Coed fence. It had a handle the shape of a perfect letter B. If nature can fashion a B, why not the whole alphabet? he reasoned, and for six years



November Sunshine

A little party from a London day nursery enjoying a walk across Waterloo Bridge on a fine autumn day. On the right of the picture is part of Somerset House.

SMOTHER THAT SNEEZE!

As the advertisements remind us, Coughs and Sneezes Spread Diseases.

High-speed photography proves beyond any doubt that a sneeze is really an express cough in which germ-laden particles are expelled from the mouth (not the nose!) at the terrific rate of 152 feet a second. Yet, in the tenth of a second, which is the duration of an average sneeze, queer things have happened.

Not long ago a man was taken to hospital because he had sneezed so hard that he displaced his shoulder-blade! As he was being given a whiff of ether he sneezed again and the bone snapped back into place! In 1921 William Darnell, of Illinois, achieved an even more remarkable surgical feat during a severe cold. A particularly violent "atishoo" brought down his nose a bullet that had remained in his head since he was shot 20 years earlier.

Americans who suffer from hay fever can suffer in company by joining their fellow-sneezers in the Achoo Club. Its first chair-

man was Mr L. E. Harris, whose glasses shot across the room when he sneezed. Another member was a Tennessee lady who sneezed 15 times a minute for five days. But the world's record sneezer was definitely Daisy Jost, of Chipewa Falls, who once sneezed incessantly for eight days!

Perhaps the most expensive sneeze on record was that perpetrated by a banknote engraver. For three months he had worked on a design for a new note for a South American republic, and had almost finished when he sneezed. Fearing the worst, he wiped his eyes and looked at his work—and called for new materials so that he could start all over again.

Quite apart from any other consideration, however, it is important for us all to remember the danger to others from the germs broadcast by a sneeze. *Smother that sneeze in a handkerchief.*

The Electric Eye

A YEAR or two ago scientists perfected an electric ray camera for photographing close finishes in sporting events.

A ray is thrown across the track, and when the winner crosses it the shutter of a fixed camera is released. In this way a photograph is taken which is absolute proof of the result, for although expert judges can err at times, the eye of the electric ray camera is infallible.

This successful modern device is to be used in the track events in the forthcoming Olympic Games at Wembley. In sprint races it will be particularly helpful, for the difference between the first man and the second is often only a fraction of an inch, and sometimes the margin is so slender that it is almost a physical impossibility for the human eye to judge accurately.

It was hoped, too, to use the electric ray camera for swimming races, events which are often won and lost by a mere touch of the fingers. But so far no means have been discovered to throw the ray across the water at surface level, and the verdict of the judges will continue to be final.

The Editor's Table

THE MARSHALL SPIRIT

MR GEORGE MARSHALL, America's Secretary of State and representative at the London conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers, can be sure of a genuine welcome wherever he travels during his stay on this side of the Atlantic; for he is the driving force behind the American plan for aiding Europe in her hour of dire need, one of the noblest gestures of help that has ever been made.

Mr Marshall has offered to the American Congress a characteristic word of advice about the spirit of the gift. "I agree that it is important that the peoples of Europe should understand the extent of American sacrifice," he said, "but the American people are doing a tremendous thing, and I do not want to poison the gift by the method with which it is given."

There is to be no bombast or boasting about the Marshall plan, or the way it is carried out. The New World, in coming to the help of Old Europe, wants no parade of the giving. America's aid is not to be used to bring glory to the giver; only genuine succour to the needy.

MORE of the Marshall spirit is seen in his view of the future of Germany. "We want to rebuild Germany," he says, "so that she does not become a continuous drain on us and so that she can help the other nations of Europe to stabilise their economies." This clear, concise statement of intricate problems is typical of the statesman who sees a plan and goes ahead to accomplish it. But he is also a soldier and a realist, and it is because he recognises European fears of a strong Germany that he also brings with him a renewed offer of a four-power pact against German aggression—an offer originally made last April and rejected by Russia.

DEEP in the hearts of all men of good will is the spirit of service to mankind without self-seeking, and we recognise in this American statesman one who symbolises that spirit. The name of George Marshall will endure with Franklin Roosevelt's as that of a true citizen of the world as well as a great American.

KEEP TRYING

ATTEMPT the end, and never stand to doubt; Nothing's so hard but search will find it out.

Robert Herrick

JUST AN IDEA

As Cowper wrote:
An idler is a watch that wants both hands,
As useless it goes as when it stands.

NEW EMPIRE

AT the mention of the British Empire too many people, not only abroad but also at home, have a mental picture of flag-wagging and armed might.

That idea of Empire has long been out of date, and the C.N. is therefore glad to welcome a new journal, New Empire, devoted to making known, particularly among young people, the true story of the peoples throughout the British Commonwealth and Empire.

Many of our sister nations within the British Commonwealth were colonies not so long ago; and today all colonies, with their peoples of many races and creeds, are being helped on the road to self-government.

This new quarterly, which is published at 15 6d by the Empire Day Movement, 19 Buckingham Street, London, W.C.2, gives reliable information about what is happening in colonies and Commonwealth nations. At present New Empire is of necessity a small journal, but we have no doubt that its influence is going to be great.

Step Up the Stairs

WRITING in his monthly letter recently, a distinguished Rotarian declared: "Step up the stairs; don't stare up the steps."

This excellent bidding might well be followed by all, young and not so young alike. Many people merely contemplate difficulties, without attempting to surmount them.

We need courageous action more than ever today. The stairs may not be easy to climb. But it is certain that we shall never reach the top, or even part of the way, unless, ceasing to stare up, we step up the stairs.

IN ENGLAND NOW

AUTUMNAL frosts enchant the pool
And make the cart-ruts beautiful.
R. L. Stevenson

Under the E



PETER PUCK
WANTS TO KNOW

If walking champions have runaway victories

TWENTY-FIVE people no longer want to be on the waiting list for houses at Potters Bar. Would rather be in the houses.

FOOD is an important part of conversation. Food for thought.

THE guard of a train got left behind in a fog. Couldn't see anything funny in it.

THIN people are not so obstinate as fat ones. You can get round them more easily.

A REQUEST has been made that a publisher should issue one volume containing all the old favourite songs. A volume of sound.

THINGS SAID

If there is imperialism in the world today, by which I mean the subjection of other peoples by the political and economic domination of a powerful nation, it is certainly not to be found in the British Commonwealth. *The Prime Minister*

We have learned that if we want to live in freedom and security we must work with all the world for freedom and security. Human misery and chaos lead to strife and conquest. *President Truman*

KIPLING was the only English writer of short stories who could compare with the Continental masters of the art. *Somerset Maugham*

GOVERNMENT of the people by the people for the people still remains the sovereign definition of democracy. *Winston Churchill*

Radio Jubilee

TWENTY-FIVE years of broadcasting! The miracle of the air which we take so much for granted is still miracle enough to keep its wonder for those who can remember pre-wireless days. Modern sets in compact miniature are a far cry from the uncertain crystal sets of the '20s.

In radio organisation this country has much to be proud of. The BBC leads the world in quality, range, and variety of programmes, and in its administration retains that balance between a public institution and private enterprise which is Britain's peculiar invention.

What will the next 25 years of radio bring? Television is only in its early stages, and broadcasting with stereoscopic effect and in colour may lie not far ahead. Ours is a world of wonder as well as tragedy, and we are thankful that the motto of British broadcasting is *Nation shall speak peace unto nation*.

Editor's Table

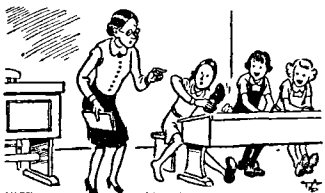
YOU can't keep potatoes long. But that is not why they are short.

A CHINESE typewriter can give 90,000 characters. All good ones, we hope.

GET the right idea about the potato situation, says a writer. We would rather get the potatoes.

THERE is a time for everything in farming. But not always time for it.

A HOUSEWIFE is always working out plans for meals. And seeing what she can work into them.



"I'm sorry, Miss, but it's the only bit of rubber I've got."

Dovedale in Danger

THE War Office has asked the Ministry of Town and Country Planning what would be the public's reception of a suggestion to extend by very many acres a rifle range in beautiful Dovedale in the Peak District. The proposed extension would impede access from the village of Thorpe to the lovely entrance to Dovedale.

Already the reception has been far from favourable. It was described as an outrageous proposal in a joint letter to *The Times* from the Chairman of the RDC of Ashbourne—which is near Dovedale—from the Chairmen of the Peak Joint Planning Committee and the Joint Committee for the Peak District National Park; and the Hon Secretaries of the Dovedale Committee of the National Trust and the Buxton Committee of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England.

The writers point out that Dovedale is one of the chief delights of the Peak district, and that to deny access to such wonderful sights as the Twelve Apostles and Tissington Spire, is no less than an act of folly.

CN readers will agree with these gentlemen and hope we shall hear no more of this very unpleasant suggestion.

BENEFACTOR

THIS year is the centenary of an invention by an American who, in his humble way, contributed a mite to the sum of human happiness. He was the man who first thought of making the hole in doughnuts, and his grateful countrymen have now placed a memorial plaque on his birthplace.

British boys and girls sadly report that in these days the holes seem to be bigger than the doughnuts; but let us hope that some unknown genius is now devising a plan to fill up this hole and give us a plentiful supply of fatter and better doughnuts. If so, he need not wait a century to be honoured.

Now Came Still Evening On

Now came still evening on, and twilight grey
Had in her sober livery all things clad;
Silence accompanied, for beast and bird,
They to their grassy couch, these to their nests
Were slunk, all but the wakeful nightingale;
She all night long her amorous descant sung;
Silence was pleased: now glowed the firmament
With living sapphires: Hesperus that led
The starry host, rode brightest, till the moon,
Rising in clouded majesty, at length,
Apparent queen, unveiled her peerless light,
And o'er the dark her silver mantle threw. *John Milton*

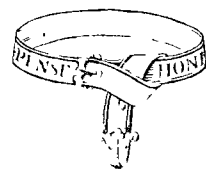
The Flower of Chivalry

THE dignity of a Lady of the Most Noble Order of the Garter was conferred on Princess Elizabeth just before her marriage, an occasion which almost coincided with the Sixth Centenary of the Order. Ladies wear an armlet as an emblem of the Order.

Just 600 years ago, between October 1347 and April 1348, Edward III held a series of splendid festivals in celebration of his victories over the French, and it is highly probable (though not certain, since the original records were destroyed) that at one of those celebrations he instituted the Most Noble Order of the Garter, bidding his first knights cherish the nation's virtue through chivalry and prayer.

The Order of the Garter was destined to become pre-eminent among all the orders of knight-hood in Europe. It has lived on, in pride and honour, for 600 years, and only our present austerities have prevented a right royal celebration at Windsor.

It has been said that the "garter" was the watchword at the battle of Crecy, and that, when he founded the Order of the Garter, King Edward was honouring the memory of that great victory. The common—and more likely—story, however, of how this order came to be founded is that at one of the king's victory celebrations the beautiful Countess of Salisbury



dropped her garter while dancing with the king, whereupon His Majesty picked it up and tied it round his leg. He saw the queen looking on, apparently very jealous, and he murmured "Honi soit qui mal y pense" (Evil be to him who evil thinks), which became and still remains the motto of the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

The original members of the order were said to have been the king, his son the Black Prince, 24 canons, 24 knights-companions, and 24 poor knights, with an equal number of ladies.

Each knight was allotted a special stall in St George's Chapel, Windsor, and his habit and insignia were splendidly magnificent. Blue was the predominant colour.

Besides Princess Elizabeth there are today three other Ladies of the Garter—the Queen, Queen Mary, and Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands.

Though the number of its knights has been varied from time to time, this ancient Order survives to remind us that chivalry is still a noble and a very precious thing.

THE BLIND FARMER

THE story of Mr George Elder, the blind farmer of Bonkle, in Lanarkshire, illustrates how the human spirit can rise triumphant over difficulties. Blinded in a mining accident, Mr Elder refused to despair and bravely opened a poultry farm. In this venture he was ably assisted by his inseparable companion Lena, an Alsatian guide dog. The poultry farm prospered, and then Mr Elder began to keep cattle. He buys calves in the autumn, fattens them, and sells them the following spring. He also keeps two cows which he milks himself.

Another enterprise of Mr Elder's is a shop which he keeps,

with the help of a girl assistant, in the village of Bonkle. When a customer comes in he can attend to his needs almost as well as the assistant. Every day, too, he can be seen with Lena trotting by his side delivering papers and milk to the smallholders in his district.

Mr Elder is also something of a film star. His services have been in demand for films showing how invaluable the sagacious guide dogs are to persons stricken with blindness.

The CN salutes Mr Elder for his courage in the face of such dire adversity and wishes him continuing success with his many ventures.



THIS ENGLAND Thatched houses in the Bedfordshire village of Milton Bryan

HE REFUSED IVANHOE

AN interesting memory of Sir Walter Scott was recalled recently by Mr W. H. Sessions, former president of the British Federation of Master Printers, at a dinner given at York to mark his jubilee in the trade.

At the beginning of the 19th century the printing firm now in the hands of Mr Sessions was owned by William Alexander, a friend of Scott's and the original of Dr Dryasdust in *The Antiquary*. Scott went to York to get local colour for certain scenes in that novel, and while there gave Alexander the opportunity to print *Ivanhoe*.

"Walter Scott," was the immediate reply, "I value this friendship and I esteem the kindness which has caused thee to make this offer, but I fear that thy books are too worldly for me to print."

It is pleasant to recall that Scott took the refusal in good part and, indeed, dedicated *Ivanhoe* to William Alexander.

YESTERDAY & TODAY



Royal Watermen

The King's Bargemaster, left, wears a scarlet and gold-braided frock tunic bearing the Royal insignia. On the right is a King's Waterman.

Olympic Football

WHEN the Olympic Games are staged in this country next year, the finest amateur footballers from 22 countries will take part.

In Britain, amateur football is very strong, but as our own definition of "amateurism" is more strict than that of some other countries our footballers may be at a slight disadvantage. Nevertheless, every effort will be made to maintain the high standard and prestige of British football.

The committee responsible for the football section of the tournament have taken a popular step in appointing a manager for Britain's team. He is Mr Matthew Busby, Scottish international half-back, who became manager of Manchester United.

Mr Busby will take full charge of the British team of amateur footballers, who will spend a short period together for special training and practice just prior to the opening of the Games. Twyford, near Reading, has been chosen as their training ground.

A Poor Nation's Wealth

WITH a sense of the fitness of things, the Italian Government, having now recovered the priceless art treasures looted by the Germans during their occupation of Italy, has chosen one of the most famous of her art palaces in which to display them to the world. The setting chosen for the exhibition is the Villa Farnesina in Rome, which is believed to have been designed by Raphael, who enriched it incomparably with works now world famous.

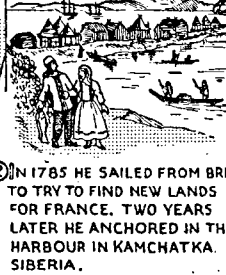
The villa was built in 1506 for Agostino Chigi, a wealthy Roman banker. On one occasion when he was entertaining Pope Leo the Tenth and his court, so rich and sumptuous were the dishes that a course consisting of but three fish cost 230 crowns. Even that and other extravagances did not satisfy the opulent banker's ambition to excel in lavish display, so, declaring that the gold and silver plate on which the banquet was served should never be used by anyone after the Pope, he had it all collected and thrown into the Tiber!

A Glory of Rome

For four centuries the palace, glorious in its possession of paintings, frescoes, and ornate ceilings by Raphael and other artists, remained one of Rome's glories, long the property of the royal house of Bourbon. It came at last to the Duke of Santa Lucia, a grandee of Spain, who, in 1927, sold it to the Italian government for £106,000, stating that he accepted this "insignificant sum" because he wished to pay "a token of homage to Signor Mussolini and Italy." It was a rich but tyrant-ridden Italy that bought the palace; it is a poor Italy that ennobles it as a show place for the priceless paintings regained, which include masterpieces by Titian, Raphael, Filippo Lippi, and other great artists, together with superb examples of the old goldsmiths' art.

WHO WAS HE?

① HE WAS BORN NEAR ALBI, FRANCE, ON AUGUST 22, 1741. WHEN ONLY 18 HE WAS WOUNDED IN A NAVAL BATTLE BETWEEN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.



③ IN 1788 HE REACHED BOTANY BAY, AUSTRALIA, WHERE, TO HIS DISAPPOINTMENT, HE FOUND SOME ENGLISH SHIPS HAD ALREADY ARRIVED. SAYING FAREWELL TO THE ENGLISH, HE SAILED AWAY.



④ HE WAS NOT HEARD OF AGAIN, UNTIL, IN 1826, WRECKAGE OF HIS SHIP WAS FOUND NORTH OF THE NEW HEBRIDES.

WHO WAS HE?
SEE BACK PAGE

PEARLS FROM BRITAIN'S RIVERS

FORTUNES may still lie on the beds of fast-flowing rivers in Great Britain awaiting the man who will peer through a glass-bottomed box and lever up mussel shells, any one of which may contain a pearl worth hundreds of pounds. For, if the two perfect, high-valued pearls taken from the River Conway recently are any indication, British pearl fisheries, ignored during the war, may once more be profitably worked.

Though Britain has been famous for its oysters for thousands of years our pearls come from mussels and, according to the historian Pliny, it was the prospect of a rich haul of

pearls that made Julius Caesar undertake his invasion two thousand years ago. Pearls were his favourite gems, but the Britons managed to keep knowledge of their best fisheries from him, though he did draw some from the Conway. A large one went to ornament a shield of honour that was presented to him, and others were used to embellish a breastplate which he dedicated to the goddess Venus Genetrix.

Queen Elizabeth was another ruler with a passion for pearls, but few from her own rivers came her way. But in the 17th century Sir Richard Wynne, of Gwydir, presented one to Catharine of Braganza, wife of

Charles II, and it is believed still to adorn the British Crown.

A century later Cumberland was noted for its pearl fishing, and "fair as an Irton pearl" was, for a while, a very great compliment. The River Irton flows from Wastwater into the Esk estuary, and, in the days of Queen Elizabeth, Sir John Hawkins held the pearl-fishing rights in it. In 1777 one man who engaged local inhabitants to do his fishing sold one season's harvest to a London jeweller for £800.

The interest in pearls shown by Queen Victoria gave another fillip to the declining fisheries, and Scottish rivers that had once been part of a Crown monopoly were exploited again. In 1864 pearls taken from the Rivers Forth, Tay, and Teith sold in London for £12,000, one unusually lustrous specimen fetching £500. Eventually the rivers were over-fished, but they recovered during the 1914-18 war, and in 1921 two pearls worth £500 each were found in Scotland.

Two or three times a year some lucky diner in Scotland orders mussels and finds in his meal a gem worth several months' salary. As recently as 1936 a holidaymaker on the Road to the Isles at Cluanie Bridge met pearl-fishers who, in exchange for cigarettes, showed him a tobacco tin full of pearls which, though small and of irregular shape, they knew they could sell in Inverness for a sum that would well reward their two months' spell of fishing.

The Painter Who Enriched a Dome

ON the American radio is a programme called What's it Worth? People are asked to bring along artistic odds and ends the value of which is estimated. Recently a Roman Catholic priest took to the broadcasting studio a painting of the Crucifixion which he had obtained from a bombed cathedral in China. The painting was found to be by the famous Italian Correggio, who lived from 1494 to 1534, and worth £19,000.

Correggio's story itself is as unusual as that of the finding of one of his masterpieces in what for him would have been the fabulous land of Cathay. He grew up without seeing the paintings of Michael Angelo,

Raphael, or other great contemporary artists, for he never set foot outside his native Lombardy. Yet Correggio was the first artist ever to challenge the work of the mosaic designers and paint a huge picture on the ceiling of a cathedral dome. His work, full of sunny grace and gaiety, showed startling innovations in the foreshortening of the figures.

A critic, gazing up at his painting of the Assumption of the Virgin, on the dome of the cathedral in Parma, said it was like "a hash of frogs," but Titian, the great master, is said to have retorted: "Reverse the dome, and fill it with gold, and even that will not be its money's worth."

Telegraphy In Its Cradle

TELEGRAPHY has a specially interesting centenary of its own this month. In November 1847 the Speech from the Throne at the opening of Parliament was for the first time transmitted to the provinces by electric telegraph, preceding by many hours the arrival of the London newspapers containing it.

In 1846 the Electric Telegraph Company had been formed and had constructed its poles and wires along main-line railways. Telegrams then cost 5s for 20 words if sent beyond 100 miles.

Queen Victoria personally read the Royal Speech, which was forthwith telegraphed to the chief towns and cities of the provinces. It was the telegraph's cradle days, and the pace was that of the invention's infancy. The speech went over the wires at the rate of only 55 letters a minute, which meant 430 words in an hour. How little did the provinces dream, thrilled as they were by their telegraphed Speech from the Throne, that the day would come when such a speech would be sent over the wires by the human voice; how little dreamed anybody that a later age would bring electric transmission without wires to every corner of the earth.

LABOUR OF LOVE

A UNIQUE effort on the part of two men earned £200 which helped to pay for the new organ recently dedicated at the Church of Scotland in Eyemouth, Berwickshire.

When the church's gallery was removed to make way for the new organ, the Revd Ronald Walker and one of his congregation, Mr William Messer, worked out a plan for making use of the discarded pews and flooring planks. Purchasing some tools and a small circular saw they worked constantly in the manse workshop from eight till after midnight, making the trays, tables, and toy engines and cars and boats, which raised such a goodly sum for their church's need.

DAVID COPPERFIELD—A Picture Version of the Immortal Story by Charles Dickens



David's Aunt being now almost penniless, he decided to give up his law training and recover from Spenslow and Jorkins the £1000 that Aunt Betsey had paid as his premium. But Mr Spenslow said Mr Jorkins would never agree, and, later, Mr Jorkins said Mr Spenslow would never agree. David saw there was no hope of ever getting back the money.



David resolved to work hard and make money to help his aunt, and to win Dora as his wife. He continued his law training but also became part-time secretary to his old headmaster, who had retired to Highgate where he was compiling a dictionary. David also learned shorthand so that he could earn money by reporting Parliamentary debates for the newspapers.



He received a letter from his old and permanently hard-up friend, Mr Micawber, inviting him to a farewell party at that gentleman's lodgings. For, wrote Micawber, "something had turned up" at last! But David was astonished when he learned that Micawber was going to Canterbury to work as clerk to Uriah Heep.

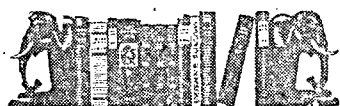


One morning Mr Spenslow haughtily led David to a coffee house, where he was confronted by Miss Murdstone, who was now Dora's "companion." She had discovered "all David's secret love-letters to Dora! Mr Spenslow was extremely indignant. "Pray don't tell me to my face you love my daughter, Mr Copperfield, it's all nonsense!"

Must David lose Dora? See next week's instalment

The Children's Newspaper, November 29, 1947

CN BOOKSHELF



For Bird Lovers

Wonder of Wings, by Nancy Price (Gollancz, 14s.)

MISS NANCY PRICE fascinates most people who meet her, or even hear her voice, and in this very attractive book she proves how birds, big or small, plain or coloured, have had a life-long fascination for her. Any boy or girl who reads these chapters will be sure to capture something of the author's love for birds, and at the same time acquire much knowledge.

A Boy and a Bull

Pancho, by Berta and Elmer Hader (Robert Hale, 7s 6d).

LITTLE people will enjoy this book with its gay coloured pictures telling the story of a small Mexican boy and how he won a bag of gold for capturing a wild bull with a crooked tail, after all the best cowboys had failed to do so.

Escape by Sea

Mystery Schooner, by Terence Roberts (Museum Press, 8s 6d).

HERE is a thrilling story of the war, which follows the amazing adventures of a group of young people in their endeavour to escape from the Japanese. Their journey began in Sumatra, and although their mystery schooner was sought after by representatives of three governments they succeeded in getting through safely to South Africa. It is a book for boys and girls in their early teens who are fond of adventure.

Champion of Freedom

Henry Clay, by Barbara Mayo (John Gifford, 7s 6d).

THE life-story, romantically told, of a warm-hearted American statesman who for 40 years before the Civil War was in the forefront of his country's affairs. "I would rather be right than President," he once said; and this book shows how, throughout his life this crusader for Freedom held nobly to his principles.

From New Guinea

Lemuel, by Edith Gregorson (The Owl Press, 7s 6d).

THIS is the story of a lovable but unfamiliar little animal, a tree kangaroo. Scientifically he is known by the forbidding name of *Dendrolagus Matschiei*; but there is nothing forbidding about Lemuel—his adventures are delightfully recorded, and just as delightfully illustrated by Peter Scott.

Other Books Received

The Young Chevalier, by Wilson Macarthur (Collins, 6s).

The Treasure in the Wild Wood, by Dorothy Clewes (Faber, 7s 6d).

The Naughty Coyote, by W. F. and M. C. Cuthbertson (Mariner Press, 7s).

Mr Reminder, by Vera M. Clarke (C. and J. Temple, 6s 6d).

Second Holiday Book, by Enid Blyton (Sampson Low, 12s 6d).

Trees of the Countryside—“Young Naturalist Series” (Brockhampton Press, 3s 6d).

I Had Two Ponies, by Josephine Pullett-Thompson (Collins, 8s 6d).

Bill Badger, and *Willy Fox*, by David Severn (Bodley Head, 2s 6d each).

WHO IS TO RULE ERITREA?

ITALY has asked the Four-Power Commission of the United Nations, now visiting their former African Colonies, to grant her the trusteeship of Eritrea under Uno.

This will be a difficult question to solve; for Haile Selassie, the Emperor of Ethiopia, has already asked for Eritrea to be ceded to his country, claiming that it was originally part of the Abyssinian Empire.

Eritrea is a wide strip of territory stretching for about 670 miles along the Red Sea coast. It is a land of burning plains but also of temperate uplands where grain, tobacco, cotton, and coffee are cultivated.

The Italians gained a foothold in this region as long ago as 1870, when a steamship company paid a local sultan only £1880 for the port of Assab in the extreme south of the country. The Italian government took over Assab in 1882. Three years later the Italians, by negotiations with the Egyptians, took over Massawa, which was to become the chief port of the new country. In 1890 these and other places they had obtained on the Red Sea coast were proclaimed by the Italians to be the Colony of Eritrea—so-called from a Roman name for the Arabian Sea, Erythraeum Mare.

A disastrous war with Abyssinia followed, but Italy succeeded in retaining her new colony, which she steadily developed. Massawa became a port with 1000 feet of quay space. Seventy miles inland, up in the hills, the Italians established the capital, Asmara, and built a railway from there to Massawa.

There was a peaceful growth

until 1935, when Mussolini attacked and conquered Abyssinia. His triumph was brief, for in 1940 he joined the war against Britain and her Allies, and by November 1941 all his forces had been cleared out of Abyssinia. In the same period British and Commonwealth troops entered Eritrea. The Italians retreated to Keren, a strongly-fortified place in the mountains, and here for some time they held out with great courage and determination. British troops had to scale heights of about 6000 feet under a hail of shells and bombs. After the fall of Keren, Asmara, the capital, surrendered without fighting, and the British found in this town of 100,000 people 20,000 wives and children of Italian soldiers, to whom all supplies of milk were given.

Massawa surrendered next, but sunk in her harbour were 26 German and Italian ships and a large dry dock, all scuttled by the enemy. The dock was subsequently raised by an American engineer in a notable feat of salvage. In fact, the port proved most valuable to the Allies in the later war years.

Deciding the future of Eritrea will be a test of Uno's strength and wisdom. The Abyssinians have bitter memories of the Italians; on the other hand, the Italians can point to much good work done by them in building a modern state in a half-parched wilderness.

Andromeda's Great Universe

BY THE CN ASTRONOMER

BY far the most impressive object that appears in the grand constellation of Andromeda, which was described in the C N for November 15, is that indicated as M 31 on the star-map accompanying that article.

If the sky be scrutinised at this spot, which may be easily found by means of the star Nu, and on a clear dark night, there will be seen an oval patch of misty-looking light appearing about as large as the Moon at first-quarter. The use of field-glasses or binoculars will present this area of light much more distinctly and considerably larger. Just now this is slightly to the south of overhead between 8 and 9 o'clock in the evening.

This light is from what used to be called the Andromeda Nebula because it was then believed to be a mass of luminous gas and the beginning of a solar system far away in space. Now it is known to be a vast universe composed of thousands of millions of suns, which are very much farther off than the stars of the constellation of Andromeda which were described here a fortnight ago. Those described averaged about 90 light-years journey distant from us, but the myriads of stars in that great Andromeda Universe average 900,000 light-years journey. Very much farther away there are multitudes of universes, or galaxies as astronomers call them, to be seen through powerful telescopes and revealed by photography, but this one is the farthest and only one to be seen without telescopic aid.

The Andromeda Universe consists of a colossal revolving spiral of countless suns, worlds, and all the bodies large and small that go to compose a great universe such as ours, and all revolving in vast streams around a very brilliant centre which is ablaze with light as if from many millions of suns all massed together. It is roughly circular, but is seen sideways from our point of view in space. So immense is it that light, which travels with a speed of about eleven million miles a minute, would take between 80,000 and 100,000 years to travel from end to end of that vast universe. This is about the same time it would take to cross our Universe.

Indeed, our Universe is actually very similar to that of Andromeda, both in size and shape, but as we on our little Earth are placed a considerable way inside it, our Universe, of course, appears to be all round us and the great arms of its spiral form compose the grand starry streams of the *Galactic Ring*, the light of which we see and know popularly as the Milky Way. It is only the nearer stars which we see individually with our eyes and small telescopes, but great telescopes with the aid of photography reveal some thousands of millions.

Were our Earth placed in a similar position in the Andromeda Universe, or Galaxy, and we looked from there into the depths of space, then this Universe of ours would appear very similar to that of Andromeda.

G. F. M.

Brilliant England centre-forward, the 'wisest head in Soccer'...

Tommy Lawton

SAYS



"Here's how I cross roads..."

"Fancy foot-work scores on the football-field, where you want to confuse the other side's halves and backs. But on the road, confusion is the last thing you want—it's much too dangerous. *Head-work* is the thing, when you're crossing a street. Here's how I do it:

- 1 At the kerb—HALT.
- 2 Eyes—RIGHT.
- 3 Eyes—LEFT.
- 4 Glance again—RIGHT.
- 5 If all clear—QUICK MARCH.

Quite calm, no running and dodging, because I wait for a proper gap in the traffic first.

"If you misjudge things in Soccer—well, you're very seldom hurt, anyway. But if you take chances in traffic, and a car or lorry charges you, you may be killed. And the same accident may kill other people. So watch your step, be a good Road Navigator, and cross all streets the Kerb Drill way."

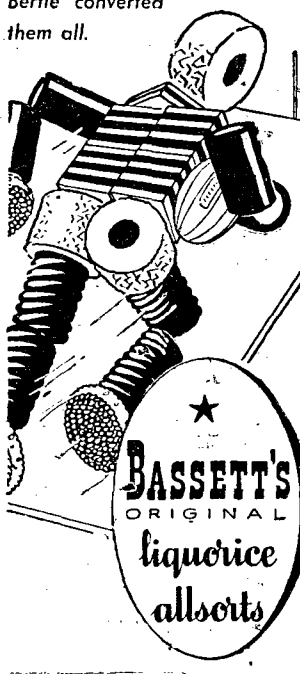
Tommy Lawton

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THE BRAN TUB

ALARMING

"Do you think that I can ever do anything with my voice?" asked the young man of his music professor.

"Well," came the cautious reply, "you might find it useful to shout with in the event of fire."

A Nursery Rhyme Revised

The Queen of Hearts
She made some tarts,
All on a summer's day.
She hadn't much fat—
Or jam, come to that—
So the Knave *didn't* take them away.

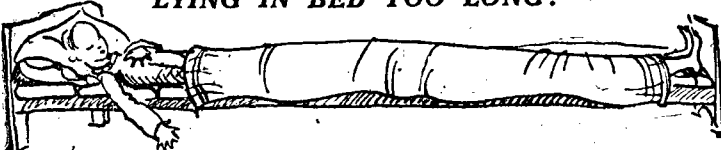
Wisdom of Shakespeare

A JEST's prosperity is in the ear
Of him that hears it, never
in the tongue
Of him that makes it.

WRONG

SAID a boy to his teacher one day,
"Wright has not written 'rite' right, I say."
And the teacher replied,
As the blunder she eyed,
"Wright, write 'rite' right, right away!"

LYING IN BED TOO LONG!



We borrow this amusing sketch from a recent issue of the splendid Austrian Youth Magazine Jungesvolk.

BEDTIME CORNER

The Bantam Hens

JANE was very excited; her cousin was going to send her two pretty little bantam hens for a present. Jane had decided to call them Trixie and Twink.

Her mother already had several ordinary hens, and Jane, at first, had feared these would peck the bantams and not let them have any food—especially old Mrs Bossy, who bullied the others. But Ned Jenkins, who worked on a nearby farm, had promised to bring some wire netting and a box and help Jane to put up a separate run.

Then came disappointing news. Ned had had to go away and look after his father, who was ill.

"Well, we'll have to put the bantams in with the big hens," sighed Mother. "And if they don't get on, we'll have to send them back, I'm afraid."

Next Saturday Trixie and Twink arrived from the station in a box. They were the prettiest little hens Jane had ever seen, and they did not mind her stroking her sleek, bright feathers. But poor Jane was very anxious. She knew it would be unkind to keep them if the bigger hens bullied them—and hens always resent newcomers.

She and Mother put Trixie and Twink in the big chicken run. As she had feared, old Bossy swelled with indignation. She ran at them, and Jane's heart sank.

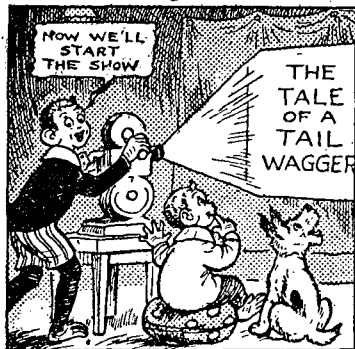
Then a surprising thing happened. Trixie and Twink raised their heads perkily as though saying: "Don't you dare peck us!" and when Bossy did peck Trixie, Trixie pecked



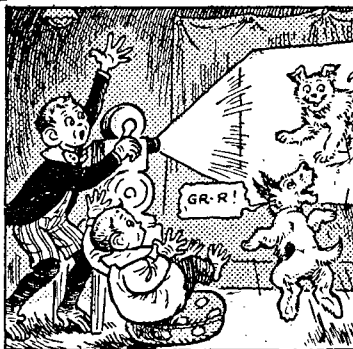
her back. Bossy squawked with surprise and then ran away—chased by Trixie and Twink!

"Well done, Trixie and Twink!" cried Jane delightedly, and after that the big hens treated the "new girls" with respect and Jane's own pair settled down happily.

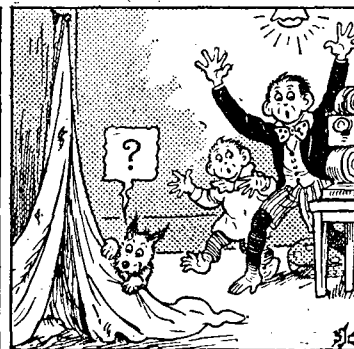
A Very Moving Picture at the Jacko Cinema



Jacko got his audience settled and then began his film show.



But they were not settled for long. Bouncer saw his old foe—



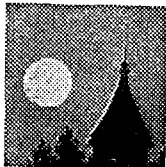
And the "curtain came down" on "The Tail of a Disappearing Dog."

Catch Question

IN whose profession is the best work trampled on? *Shoemaker's*

Other Worlds

IN the evening Saturn and Mars are low in the east. In the morning Mercury is in the east, and Saturn and Mars are in the south. The picture shows the Moon at 7 p.m. on Thursday, November 27.



Children's Hour

BCC Programmes from Wednesday November 26, to Tuesday, December 2.

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 Henrietta Hen—a story with music. 5.30 Book Review. *North*, 5.0 Concert.

THURSDAY, 5.0 Cowla's Junior Co-operative Choir. 5.40 Swallows and Amazons (8). *N. Ireland*, 5.0 Salavar Stays at the Zoo; How the Bees Came to Witching Wood; Midge's Winter Holiday; Important to Us; Kilrea P.E.S. Choir. *North*, 5.0 Book Quiz; Wandering with Nomad. *Scottish*, 5.40 Round the Countryside. *Welsh*, 5.30 Sian and the White Swan; Muggins by Name Only.

FRIDAY, 5.0 Railway Raid in Georgia. *Midland*, 5.0 The Spider's Web (part 3); Piano; How Tanta Saved Zombesi from Chaka's Wrath. *North*, 5.0 The Wind on the Moon. *Scottish*, 5.0 Party Games and Music; The Black Wherry (2). *Welsh*, 5.0 Rigmorole (2); Fresh Fields. History of Films.

SATURDAY, 5.0 Stuff and Nonsense. *Midland*, 5.0 Midland Magazine; The Owl That Flew by Day; Harry Engelman and his Players. *West*, 5.0 The Oak Tree Folk (2); 5.15 Magazine; Trains—a talk.

SUNDAY, 5.0 Calendar—November. *Scottish*, 5.0 The Glasgow Orpheus Choir. 5.35 St Andrew.

MONDAY, 5.0 Badger's Moon (6). 5.25 Cowleaze Farm.

TUESDAY, 5.0 Stripey the Kind Tiger; An Affair of Honour. 5.40 I Wish I Could Draw (2). *N. Ireland*, 5.0 Salavar Leaves the Zoo; From Different Angles; Mount-pottinger Young People's Salvation Army Band; A Sports Quiz. *Scottish*, 5.0 Tales of a Wandering Cat (4); Down at the Mains. *West*, 5.0 Story of Humphry Davy.

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EGGSHELL BASKETS

WE do not get many eggs these days, but when we do the shells can be made into pretty little hanging plant baskets.

Level the broken edge and, with a needle, make four small holes and thread through them some coloured silk or cotton from which the little basket may be suspended. Into the shell put some damp cotton wool, on which is scattered some grass, mustard, or cress seed.

Hang the shell near a window and moisten the cotton wool from time to time until the seeds grow. These little baskets can be very attractive if coloured.

Who Was He?

THE man in the picture story on Page 6 was La Pérouse.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Riddle-Me-Ree

Radish

FERN	SEAL
EGO	PRATE
ARENA	SEE
TERSE	SEK
TRESTLE	
RIDDLE	ET
OLD	EMERY
BOGEY	RIP
EWER	FREE

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